



Church of Saint Ann

289 Arch Road * Avon, Connecticut * 06001

860-673-9858

Rev. John W. McHugh, Ph.D., Pastor

www.stannavon.org

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CEMETERY SUPERINTENDENT

Mike Gould: ext.225

BAPTISMS:

Registered parishioners call the Parish Office

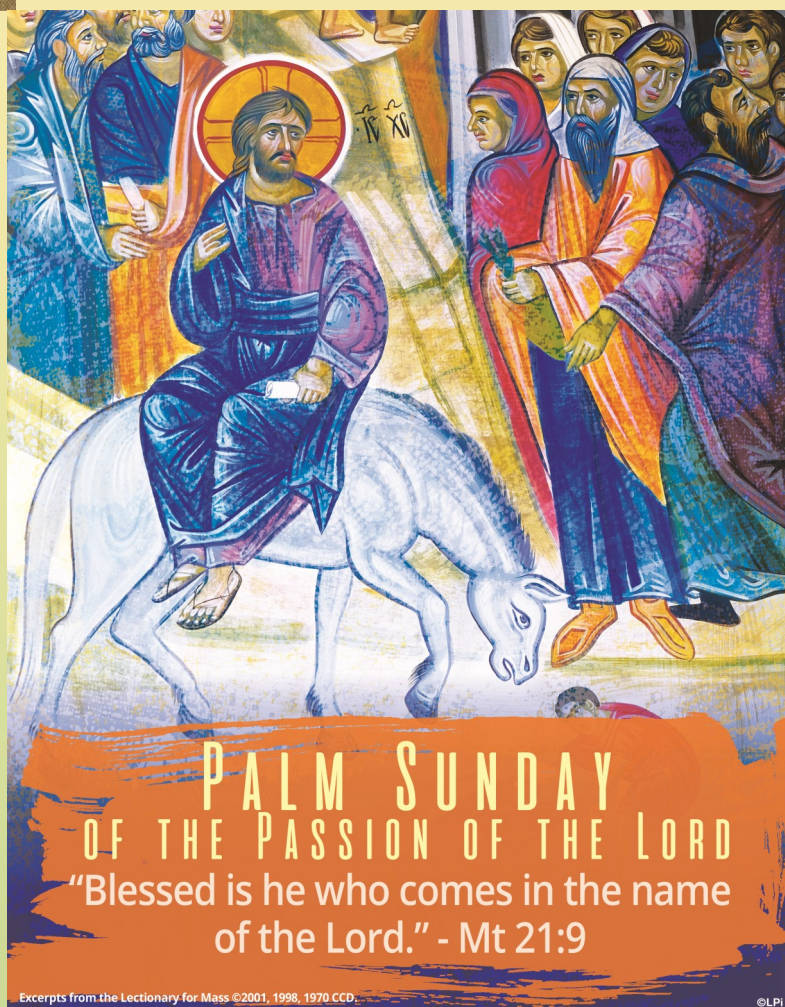
MARRIAGES

Please set the date with the priest or deacon at least six months prior to the wedding. Weddings cannot be scheduled after the Saturday evening Mass or on Sundays.

BULLETIN DEADLINE & INSERTS

Please submit any bulletin announcements to the Parish Office by 2pm on the Monday prior to the weekend you would like it published.

Also, please contact the office to obtain permission to insert fliers into the weekly bulletin.



MASS SCHEDULE:

Monday - Friday:

9:00 am

Sunday Vigil (Saturday):

4:00 pm

Sunday:

7:30, 9:30 and 11:00am

First Friday:

9:00 am

CONFESSIONS:

Saturday: after 4pm Mass

First Friday: Before 9:00 AM Mass

Other times by appointment

DEVOTIONS:

Eucharistic Adoration:

Mondays 9:30-10:30am

Rosary: 8:30 am, daily

MMP Cenacle: Mondays at 7:15pm

Chaplet of Divine Mercy: Tues.- Fri.

9:30-9:40am in the Sanctuary

Holy Hour: Thursdays at 12noon

MASS INTENTIONS



**Palm Sunday of
the Passion of the
Lord**

MONDAY, April 6

- Special Intentions

TUESDAY, April 7

- For Divine Peace, Divine Love and Divine Will on Earth

WEDNESDAY, April 8

- Special Intentions

THURSDAY, April 9, Holy Thursday

FRIDAY, April 10, Good Friday

SATURDAY, April 11, Holy Saturday

SUNDAY, April 12, Easter

- For all those in whose memory or honor the altar plants have been donated

**If/When the Archdiocese of Hartford puts out any information regarding ways to celebrate Holy Week at home we will post that information on our website: www.stannavon.org. Thank you for patience at this challenging time.*

PALM SUNDAY



©LPI



Confessions:

Mondays from 6-7pm



If you are a resident in this area, we hope that you will continue to grace us with your presence and register with our office manager. You may call 860-673-9858 or stop by the parish office to register. If you are a visitor, we thank you for participating in worshipping with us and we hope to see you again.

THIS WEEK AT ST. ANN'S

MONDAY, April 6

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: suspended

MMP Cenacle-Rosary Prayer Group: suspended

Lenten Confessions: 6-7pm (will continue at this time)

Lent Series: suspended

TUESDAY, April 7

RCIA: Tuesdays, 7pm via Zoom

WEDNESDAY, April 8

Video Series/Catholicism: suspended

Walking with Purpose: suspended

THURSDAY, April 9

Holy Hour: suspended

Adult Confirmation: Alternate Thursdays, via Skype at 7pm
(April 2, 16, 30; May 14, 28),

Saint Ann Cares Ministry Meeting: suspended

Folk/Contemporary Choir: suspended

FRIDAY, April 10

Traditional Choir: suspended

Lent Series: Room suspended

Stations of the Cross: suspended (see "Resources" on next page)

SATURDAY, April 11

Men's Breakfast Group: suspended

SUNDAY, April 12

Lent Series: suspended

Happy Easter!

The Church of Saint Ann
will be open for prayer:

**9am - 12noon
4pm - 6pm**

Please **ONLY** sit in designated areas while also maintaining the CDC's social distance guidelines.





RESOURCES:

VISIT: www.archdioceseofhartford.org/coronavirus
for all communications from the
Archdiocese of Hartford relating to the COVID-19 Pandemic

Please visit St. Ann's website: www.stannavon.org

*Look under the "COVID-19" tab for updates and spiritual enrichment ideas
for adults, children & families.*

Daily Mass: Options for Viewing at Home

- The Office of Radio and Television of the Archdiocese of Hartford broadcasts Mass every day at 10:00am on WCCT. Channel 11 on our local cable. It is celebrated by one of our own Archdiocesan priests in the ORTV studio.
- Bishop Robert Barron: "Word on Fire" Daily Mass webpage: www.wordonfire.org/daily-mass/
- EWTN, either on your TV or online at: www.ewtn.com
- You could also try searching something like "Catholic Daily Masses" on www.youtube.com



Find a Prayer that takes around 20 seconds and say it every time you wash your hands! This way not only are you washing your hands the recommended length of time but you are also offering up many needed prayers!

Corporal Works of Mercy 2020

During this Lenten season, our Parish family Lenten commitment is to practice the corporal works of mercy, both individually and as a community. Donations should be placed in the labeled boxes in the Gathering Space. Anything you can donate is appreciated!

In imitation of our Master, we Christians are called to confront the poverty of our brothers and sisters, to touch it, to make it our own, and to take practical steps to alleviate it. - Pope Francis

Modifications due to Coronavirus

April 4/5: Bury the Dead

Reach out to family, friends, and neighbors who have lost a loved one, particularly a spouse via phone calls at this time!

EASTER FOOD BASKET collection is on hold at this point

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

We have many offerings to keep you connected and enriched during social distancing! Please visit <https://www.stannavon.org/spiritual-enrichment-during-covid-19-crisis> for instructions on using Zoom and for links to access our Zoom video meetings.

"Lectio Divina, Live!" – Find God's message to you in the coming Sunday Gospel reading through the popular *lectio divina* prayer practice. Meet weekly via Zoom:

- + Sun, 10:30am with Chip Janiszewski
- + Mon, 7:15pm with Jim Serruta
- + Fri, 9:30am with Terry Pendergast

"Defining Moments" Bible Study by Lisa Brenninkmeyer of Walking With Purpose. While we can't receive Jesus in Eucharist, let's make our Spiritual Communion more meaningful by diving deep into the Sunday Mass readings. Unpack each of the Mass readings with a daily study guide, watch a video commentary on the weekend, then join us via Zoom for prayer and discussion Sundays at 4pm.

WEEKLY ORDINARY INCOME

March 9, 2020: if you are able to, please consider continuing to support St. Ann via USmail or Online Giving during these challenging times. Thank You!

Online Giving (week ending 4/1/20): \$3,004

Next weekend's 2nd collection: would have been Easter and Parish Charities



Growing in Faith, Giving in Love 2020 ARCHBISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

You may have recently received a letter and pledge card from Father McHugh seeking your support of this year's Archbishop's Annual Appeal. Please prayerfully consider your response. Know that your financial support will touch the lives of thousands of people who are served in our Archdiocese through your support of the Appeal.

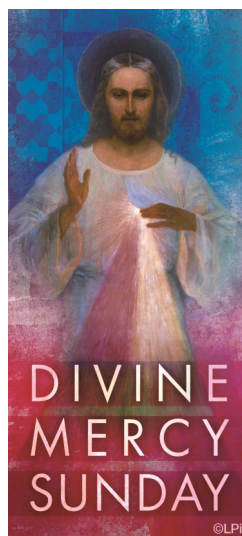
The 2020 Archbishop's Annual Appeal, **Growing in Faith, Giving in Love** presents each of us with the opportunity to give back to the Lord by helping those in need. Thank you for your support of this year's Appeal and please pray for its success – so many are counting on us. Thank you.

Join Us For Lunch

"Lunch w/ Friend's" Wednesdays, 12:15pm, via Zoom. Come connect with members of our parish family as we relax together at lunchtime, sharing stories, inspiration, and even a few surprises. It's the perfect mid-week, mid-day break during these challenging times.

Pop in for a bit or stay until 1pm.

Visit <https://www.stannavon.org/spiritual-enrichment-during-covid-19-crisis> for instructions on using Zoom and for links to access our Zoom video



Preparation for The Feast of Divine Mercy

We will begin the Divine Mercy Novena on Good Friday, April 10th. In light of the Governor's "Stay Safe, Stay Home" order we will be praying the Novena at home. All are welcome to join us. In His revelations to St. Faustina Jesus requested that a Novena be said for the 9 days proceeding Divine Mercy Sunday. The Novena also includes the Chaplet of the Divine Mercy.

You can find the Divine Mercy Novena on this website:
<https://www.ewtn.com/catholicism/devotions/novena-13366>



Easter Plant Sale

The annual Easter Plant Sale must be modified this year. If you wish to donate an Easter altar plant in honor or memory of a loved one, please download the order form on our website (www.stannavon.org/easter-plant-sale) and MAIL IT BACK to the church along with your donation of \$10 per plant. Names received before Wednesday, April 1st will be included in the Easter bulletin. Thank you!

Church of St. Ann, Easter Plant Sale, 289 Arch Rd., Avon, CT 06001

APRIL 5, 2020 — PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

Recognize God in Your Ordinary Moments

The 6 Characteristics of an Everyday Stewardship for Lent — Accountable —

Easter is only a week away, and churches everywhere in the West are beginning the holiest of weeks. For a moment, even the secular world will bow to religious observances: closings on Good Friday, Easter baskets filled with treats, and television specials featuring Biblical figures. You and I will be reflecting on the meaning of Lent and how we have died and risen with Our Lord, Jesus Christ. Either we have prepared well for this Holy Week observance, or we are left lamenting that maybe next year will be when we get back on track.

The question before us is: "To whom are we accountable?" Did our Lenten observance only have to do with us? Does it matter to anyone if we really took this time seriously or not?

Both faith and community are gifts from God to us. The Church exists so we may live out that faith and respond to God's call, being strengthened by the grace imparted through the sacraments and the community in which we find ourselves. If we are accountable to no one, then the community is simply an option on a Sunday morning, much like golf or household chores. If we are not accountable to God, then our faith is simply something we look to periodically when we are sad or frightened.

However, if we are accountable to each other and to Jesus Christ, then we must answer for our stewardship gifts of faith and community. The Body of Christ is counting on us. Without a strong sense of accountability, we think our actions only affect us. In the end, we are connected to each other through Christ in such a manner that no one ever stands alone.

-Tracy Earl Welliver, MT

INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Live the Liturgy

Listen carefully to the passion of Christ as it unlocks the door that brings us to the true meaning of human life. Holding what seems like opposite polarities of human existence, it weaves us through the highest of triumphs and the darkest of tragedies. As we witness and meditate upon Jesus's last days on earth, we see most vividly that God is present in and through it all. God is not only the glue that holds all of life's seemingly opposing experiences together, but He is the One who offers incredible promise and hope on our road to fulfillment and eternal life. It was only through experiencing the burning agony of suffering's loneliness and heart-wrenching pain that Jesus experienced the joyful exultation of his resurrected self. There are profound lessons here for all of us to learn. ©LPi

SUNDAY'S READINGS

Processional Gospel:

"Hosanna to the Son of David; blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord; hosanna in the highest." (Mt 21:9b)

First Reading:

The Lord God is my help, therefore I am not disgraced. (Is 50:7a)

Psalms:

My God, my God, why have you abandoned me? (Ps 22)

Second Reading:

He humbled himself, becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. (Phil 2:8)

Gospel:

But Jesus cried out again in a loud voice, and gave up his spirit. And behold, the veil of the sanctuary was torn in two from top to bottom. (Mt 27:50-51)

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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WEEKLY READINGS

Readings for the week of April 5, 2020

Sunday: Mt 21:1-11/Is 50:4-7/Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24 [2a]/Phil 2:6-11/Mt 26:14—27:66 or 27:11-54

Monday: Is 42:1-7/Ps 27:1, 2, 3, 13-14 [1a]/Jn 12:1-11

Tuesday: Is 49:1-6/Ps 71:1-2, 3-4a, 5ab-6ab, 15 and 17 [cf. 15ab]/Jn 13:21-33, 36-38

Wednesday: Is 50:4-9a/Ps 69:8-10, 21-22, 31 and 33-34 [14c]/Mt 26:14-25

Thursday: *Chrism Mass*: Is 61:1-3a, 6a, 8b-9/Ps 89:21-22, 25 and 27 [2]/Rv 1:5-8/Lk 4:16-21

Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper: Ex 12:1-8, 11-14/Ps 116:12-13, 15-16bc, 17-18 [cf. 1 Cor 10:16]/1 Cor 11:23-26/Jn 13:1-15

Friday: Is 52:13—53:12/Ps 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-16, 17, 25 [Lk 23:46]/Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9/Jn 18:1—19:42

Saturday: *Vigil*: Gn 1:1—2:2 or 1:1, 26-31a/Ps 104:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12, 13-14, 24, 35 [30] or Ps 33:4-5, 6-7, 12-13, 20-22 [5b]/Gn 22:1-18 or 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Ps 16:5, 8, 9-10, 11 [1]/Ex 14:15—15:1/Ex 15:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 17-18 [1b]/Is 54:5-14/Ps 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-12, 13 [2a]/Is 55:1-11/Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6 [3]/Bar 3:9-15, 32—4:4/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 [Jn 6:68c]/Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28/Ps 42:3, 5; 43:3, 4 [42:2] or Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 [3] or Ps 51:12-13, 14-15, 18-19 [12a]/Rom 6:3-11/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23/Mt 28:1-10

Next Sunday: Acts 10:34a, 37-43/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23 [24]/Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8/Jn 20:1-9 or Mt 28:1-10

GOSPEL MEDITATION

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

Human beings are united in their suffering. When we find ourselves in a painful moment, our first reaction is "why me?" as if we are the only person on earth who ever encountered this challenge. Going through life with a "why me" attitude only finds us wallowing in the mire of self-pity and never seizing opportunities or graces. We walk in solidarity with every human being in the experience of suffering. Believing that the goal of life is the elimination or avoidance of suffering is simply an illusion that keeps us entrenched in a collective myth. This myth distorts us and limits us.

There are living witnesses among us showing how courage and determination can overcome any degree of hardship, pain, loss, or tragedy. Folks finding the normalcy of their lives suddenly torn asunder are faced with options: opportunity or despair, stay or leave. Jesus stands before us as the prime example of endurance and perseverance. He is the One who showed humility through both the triumphs of life (by learning to be humble) and the tragedies and injustices (by learning how to be obedient). To secular ears, this may be perceived as nonsense. But to those with the eyes of faith, they are pearls of great price.

True humility tempers the temptation we have to become complacent and prevents an excessive relishing of life's successes and affirmations. Learning obedience keeps us faithful to our relationship with God so that we can find the courage to endure any depth of hardship, disappointment, betrayal, or agony. While we may want our cup of suffering to be taken away, it simply cannot be. Somehow and somewhere in the seemingly opposing experiences life can deal us, God is present with His reassuring, compassionate, empowering, and persevering love. To be true to who we are and who God is, we must take up the cross of suffering, even when it's the hardest and most apparently senseless thing to do.

Only our soul can understand these things, but our minds cannot, so they continue to run to secular ideas and solutions to pain and hardship. It goes without saying that we need to do all we can to eliminate as much senseless, unjust suffering as possible. Hunger, violence, abuse, exploitation, rejection, prejudice, homelessness, disrespect for life, and a whole host of other sins all result in suffering that is within our control. Then, when we face the uncontrollable kind of suffering or find ourselves the victim of injustice, what do we do? ©LPi

THE BULLETIN BOARD

SUNDAY REFLECTION: For Sunday, April 5, 2020, Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

Isaiah 50:4-7
Philippians 2:6-11
Matthew 26:14—27:66 Or 27:11-54

When I was expecting my second son, I remember spending hours poring over decisions on his birth and what I wanted things to look like. Every step of the labor and delivery process was already planned out in my mind. So, when at 40 weeks pregnant and ready to make this plan reality, I experienced a partial placental abruption, I was completely blindsided. Everything that I had anticipated for his birth was undone and I was sent on a completely new path in that single moment. In God's providential care, my son was born healthy. There was so much suffering that came from that birth, but that moment was also a vital turning point for me as a mother and Catholic and I wouldn't change it. God allowed it all for a good I couldn't see yet. I learned the profound lesson that our ways are very often not God's ways.

This Lent, our entire world has learned a similar lesson at a much larger scale. Many of us planned to spend our days preparing for the Lord's Passion and Resurrection in a very specific way. Like many of my friends, I had mapped out exactly what I was fasting from and the spiritual practices I would be implementing in order to create a little curated Lenten journey I thought fit to help prepare my heart for these holy days. However, this year we have seen in God's providential care that he has allowed a new way to be carved out for many Catholics this year. A way that God may see fit to call even more hearts to conversion as the world navigates the immense challenges of a pandemic. We've been called to give up far more than most had planned. At the same time we've been called to renew our hope and trust in the God who sees beyond any earthly suffering, not as a passive spectator but as the one who took on flesh in order to feel deeply the pangs of human suffering, in order to redeem it. At the end of Lent many of us are realizing God's plans were not our plans, and His plans will bear so much more fruit even if we don't see it yet.

The canticle in the second reading helps us commit to heart this reality: no matter how deep our suffering is or how tragic our world becomes, no matter how many plans are disrupted, we have a God who is so profoundly on our side that nobility and earthly power mean nothing to Him. He has literally cloaked Himself in the weight of our sin and sorrow in order to save us and ensure we get back to Him. If I had planned for a king to save the world, the last thing I would plan is a suffering servant who had to endure a horrendous death. But in His mercy and goodness, God planned a way that would convince even the hardest heart that we are never alone, and we will someday be in paradise with Him if we remain faithful and trust in Him.

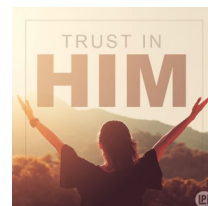
Author Fr. Jacques Philippe teaches us about this trust in his book "Fire & Light" when he says:

"To the extent we have riches or place our trust in security and human support, we can't really practice hope, which consists in counting on God alone. God sometimes permits us to go through trials, the loss of some of our security, even lamentable falls, in order that we learn in the end to count on nothing but Him and His mercy. Peter is a good example: he had to fall, denying Christ during his Passion, in order to learn not to lean on his own virtues, his own courage, the momentum of human enthusiasm, but only on the love of Jesus."

Let us welcome Palm Sunday and our Lord's Passion this year with new hearts that have been formed by God's will, even if it didn't come as we had planned, leaning into the love of Christ and his wounded heart.

Angie Windnagle

(from Liturgical Press, Inc.)



HEARTS & SOULS

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), there is currently no vaccine to prevent COVID-19. The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to this virus. The CDC recommends everyday preventive actions to help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases, including:

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
 - Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
 - Stay home when you are sick.
 - Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
 - Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
 - Follow CDC's recommendations for using a facemask (facemasks are **only** needed for those who show symptoms of coronavirus).
 - Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- In the context of church, suspend shaking hands during the sign of peace. Communion should be taken in the hand (vs mouth). Do not come to church if you are sick (the mass is aired at 10 am daily by the Archdiocesan Office of Radio and Television).